

February 1, 2025

Lewis & Clark Expedition

The Lewis and Clark Expedition, also known as the Corps of Discovery Expedition, was a significant journey in American history. It took place from 1804 to 1806 and was led by Captain Meriwether Lewis and Lieutenant William Clark. The primary goal of the expedition was to explore the newly acquired Louisiana Territory and find a practical route across the western half of the continent to the Pacific Ocean.

Here are some key points about the expedition:

- **Purpose**: The expedition aimed to map the territory, establish trade with Native American tribes, and assert American sovereignty over the land.
- **Challenges**: The team faced harsh weather, difficult terrain, and various health issues. They also had to navigate relationships with numerous Native American tribes, some of which were friendly, while others were hostile.
- **Discoveries**: The expedition documented numerous plant and animal species previously unknown to science, including the grizzly bear and the prairie dog.
- **Significance**: The journey provided valuable geographic, ecological, and cultural information

about the western territories, paving the way for westward expansion.

The expedition was a monumental achievement in American exploration and had a lasting impact on the nation's history.